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A PRIMER OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, Number 47



Volume 4

The Committee On Armed Services

By Richard L. Henschel

From time immemorial, all nations on the face of the earth have had to maintain armed services and it appears that they will always. In the 2,000 years since Christ preached peace and brotherhood, lay citizens have had to support increasingly their defense and aggressor forces. For more than 190 million Americans, their liaison with the gargantuan United States military establishment lies in the hands of a comparatively small but omnipotent group of their elected members of Congress in both Houses.

The U. S. Senate's Committee on Armed Services is a merger of the Senate's Military Affairs Committee and Naval Affairs Committee, created in the pre-flight era shortly after the War of 1812, on Dec. 10, 1816. Eventually they combined as the Senate Military and Naval Affairs Committee. After the establishment of three separate military services, it became the Armed Services Committee by direction of the 80th Congress in 1947 (Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946).

Dozen Duties. That Act provided the Senate's Armed Services Committee to comprise 15 Senators, but the 86th Congress' amendment upped the number to 17. To the committee is referred all proposed legislation, messages, petitions, memorials and other matters relating to the following subjects:

- 1. Common defense generally.
- 2. The Department of Defense, the Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force, generally.
 - 3. Soldiers' and sailors' homes.
- 4. Pay, promotion, retirement and other benefits and privileges of the armed forces.
 - 5. Selective service.
- 6. Size and composition of the Army, Navy and Air Force.
- 7. Forts, arsenals, military reservations and navy yards.
 - 8. Ammunition depots.

- 9. Maintenance and operation of the Panama Canal, including the administration, sanitation and government of the Canal Zone.
- 10. Conservation, development and use of naval petroleum and oil-shale
- 11. Strategic and critical materials necessary for the common defense.
- 12. Aeronautical and space activities peculiar to or primarily associated with the development of weapons systems or military operations.

Considers Nominees. Some matters relating to civil defense also are considered by the Armed Services Committee, and one of its other important functions is the consideration of nominations for civilians to fill important jobs in the Department of Defense and of military officer personnel to be promoted to higher grades. In a typical two-year Congress the Committee processes as many as 40,-000 nominations.

Although the committee is almost equally divided between Northern and Southern Senators, three of the latter are really the leaders by virtue of great seni-ority. Chairman Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) was appointed to the old Senate Naval Affairs Committee on Jan. 12, 1933 and Sen. Harry Flood Byrd (D-Va.) to the same group two months Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss.) joined the committee more than 13 years ago, but a year ago this week Sen. Byrd obtained unanimous consent of the Senate that for the remainder of the 88th Congress the junior Senator from Mississippi (Stennis) be listed following the chairman as the ranking majority member on the Armed Services Commit-

The two newest members of the Committee, who took their seats a year ago, are Sens. Stephen M. Young (Ohio) and Daniel K. Inouye (Hawaii), both Democrats.

Armed Services Committee

SENATE

Sen. R. B. Russell Heads Committee On **Armed Services**

Chairman of the U. S. Senate's Committee on Armed Services is Sen. Richard Brevard Russell (D-Ga.), a 66-year-old public servant who has put in more than 31 years in the U. S. Senate, two terms as speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives and a term as that state's

Sen. Russell's continuous service has made him the second ranking member of the Senate in point of seniority (although many Senators are senior in age) and he is considered leader of the "Southern bloc," with leadership and influence contending against the administration's civil rights program.

He won his Senate seat in a special election to fill the unexpired term of Sen. William J. Harris, has been reelected overwhelmingly five times and his present term ends January 1967. He is the ranking Democrat on the powerful Appropriations Committee, apart from its chairman, Sen. Carl Hayden (D-Ariz.), who is president pro tempore of the Senate. Sen. Russell is also chairman of Agriculture appropriations subcommittee, which passes on funds for all federal farm programs.

Military Specialist. Sen. Russell first won national attention for his activities



Even while dining at banquets Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) is busy talking "shop." (A formal portrait of the veteran Senator appeared in last week's Washington World "Primer" section on the Appropriations Committee).

in behalf of national defense during World War II as chairman of a special Senate committee that made a 45,000mile front-line inspection tour of the world-wide fighting areas.

The report of the Russell committee to the Senate in October, 1943, was one of the first authoritative and comprehensive reports to the American people on the over-all progress of the war and

the welfare of our fighting men. It helped to establish Russell as a non-partisan authority on military and defense matters-a reputation that has continued to grow throughout the years.

Russell became chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee in January, 1951, and has continued in that post while the Democratic party has maintained a majority in the Senate.

One of his first assignments after assuming leadership of the committee was to head the explosive investigation by the Armed Services and Foreign Relations Committees of the firing of General Douglas MacArthur as Supreme Far East Commander. Russell's fair, impartial and dignified conduct of that inves-tigation was praised by all sides in the controversy. The Georgian's calm and judicious conduct of the MacArthur hearings is today cited as a model for constructive Congressional investigations.

Advocates Strong Defense. Sen. Russell vigorously maintains that our national security must be predicated upon a strong and alert defense establishment.

Long before the advent of the "Space Age," he insisted that the nation's defense planners place greater emphasis on the development of new technological and scientific weapons. He has warned repeatedly that our country must not lag behind the Soviet Union in development of such weapons as long-range missiles, space rockets and nuclear-powered air-

At the same time, he has championed the more established and conventional defense programs of the Army, Navy and Air Force. He has fought consistently for sufficient funds for the Strategic Air Command which he considers the most powerful military striking force in the world. He has also backed the Navy's program to build and equip a fleet of atomic-powered, missile-armed "Polaris" submarines.

In recognition of this effort to shore up the nation's military might, Senator Russell was the 1959 recipient of the Reserve Officer's Association award as the "Minute Man of the Year in National Defense.

Senator Russell began his political career at the age of 23 when he was elected to Georgia's house of representatives in 1921. He served 10 years as a member of that body and the last four years-from 1927 to 1931-were spent as house speaker.

Navy and another son a Corps sergeant, was Committee, is one of the busiest members of the Capitol Hill "100 Club."

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Minority Leader Is Military Family Man

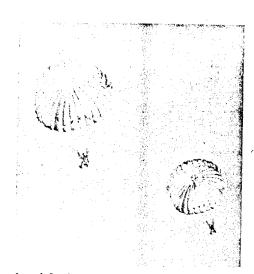
Besides his own Army service in 1917-18 with the 301st Field Artillery Battalion (with 5 months in France) during World War I, Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.) is well qualified to serve as the ranking minority member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. The veteran Senator has raised a family of armed services veterans.

His namesake, Leverett, Jr., was a first lieutenant in the Army in World War II and his daughter, Emily B., was on active duty in the Navy's WAVES. His present administrative assistant, son William L., did his war stint as a quartermaster 3/c in the Navy and another son Peter B., a Marine Corps sergeant, was killed in action.



Sen. Leverett Saltonstall (R-Mass.), ranking min-

FROM TOP...



Armed Services Senate committeemen are charged with scrutinizing the nation's defense services generally. Here are two of a 13-man team of U. S. Army and Air Force parachutists at El Centro, Calif., floating to the ground and establishing a world record for mass free-fall by jumping from an altitude of 43,500 feet. All landed safely after releasing their chutes below 2,500 feet. Russia held the record previously when in 1961 their team jumped from 36,650

Military Leaders Face Solons Often

Every Thursday morning a sleek, long station wagon with Pentagon markings drops its uniformed and beribboned passengers at Washington, D. C.'s old Senate Office Building, where admirals and generals have to go through the Senate Armed Services Committee's interrogative meat-grinder.

Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, down through the Joint Chiefs of Staff to specialist colonels and civilians, and occasionally an authoritative lieutenant or a grizzled master sergeant, must often face the distinguished 17 Senators of that powerful committee which is one of the nation's most important defense watchdogs.

Hears All Experts. The committee is authorized to call anyone involved in carrying out the defense of the United States generally. Secretary McNamara's most recent testimony, early this month, fills 170 pages of single-spaced type on Armed Services Committee subjects.

Armed Services Committee Has 17 Senators

The Armed Services Committee of the United States Senate meets every Thursday while Congress is in session and comprises 17 Senators, most of whom have served in Uncle Sam's military forces in World Wars I or II.

The roster of the committee is as

Democrats. Sens. Richard B. Russell, (Ga.), chairman, Harry Flood Byrd (Va.), John Stennis (Miss.), Stuart Symington (Mo.), Henry M. Jackson (Wash.), Sam J. Ervin, Jr., (N. C.), Strom Thurmond (S. C.), Clair Engle (Calif.), Howard W. Cannon (Nev.), Robert C. Byrd (W. Va.), Stephen M. Young (Ohio), Daniel K. Inouye (Hawaii)

Republicans. Sens. Leverett Saltonstall (Mass.), ranking minority member: Margaret Chase Smith (Me.), J. Glenn Beall (Md.), Barry Goldwater (Ariz.), and Clifford Case (N. J.).

Chief clerk of the committee is Harry L. Wingate, Jr., and his assistant is Herbert S. Atkinson. On the professional staff are William H. Darden, T. Edward Braswell, Jr., and Gordon A. Nease.

Mostly Veterans. Both Senators Goldwater and Thurmond are reserve generals with long service in the military establishment. Sen. Symington enlisted in the Army at 17 during World War I. Sen. Ervin is a Purple Heart veteran who served in France with the 1st Division in World War I. He was twice wounded and twice cited for gallantry in action.

Sen. Cannon spent almost five years in the Air Corps, during which 20 months were in overseas combat. During World War II his plane was shot down over Holland and he evaded cap-ture for 42 days before reaching Allied lines. Also a reserve general, Sen. Cannon has flown more than a score of different aircraft, including supersonic

An artilleryman in World War I, veteran Sen. Young served for 37 months in World War II in North Africa and with the Fifth Army in Italy. Later he was made Allied Military Governor of Reggio Emilia in Italy.

Sen. Inouye Combat Hero. In addition to the many members of the Senate's Armed Services Committee subjects.

Armed Services Committee who have ing coremonies last Christmas week.

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served the nation on the battlefield, its junior Democratic member, Sen. Inouve. has an outstanding military record. He enlisted as a private in the famous "Go For Broke" 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team, received a battlefield commission in 1944, served in Italy and France throughout World War II and came out a captain.

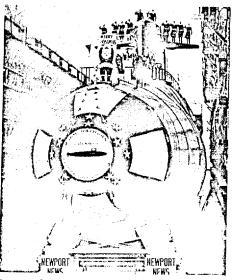
Sen. Saltonstall was an artilleryman during World War I and Scn. Beall was an Army Ordnance sergeant at the same

The composition of the Armed Services Committee of the Senate is obviously made up of Senators who know their subject well. Even distaff Senator Margaret Chase Smith, second to GOP Sen. Saltonstall, is such a student of military subjects that she serves on the Senate's Aeronautical and Space Sciences Committee and takes a vital part in the military funding on the Appropriations Committee.

Sen. Goldwater, who went to Staunton Military Academy in Virginia, was in the Air Corps from 1941 to 1945 and is a major-general in the U. S. Air Force Reserve. Sen. Thurmond volunteered to serve on the day war was declared in World War II and served in both the European and Pacific theaters.

He was with the 82nd Airborne Division at Normandy and is also a major general, but in the U.S. Army Reserve.

TO BOTTOM



Just as they must survey the high, Armed Services Committee Senators keep their eyes on the below-surface Navy. At Newport News, Va., officers and enlisted men stand at attention as the nuclear-powered submarine "U.S.S. Sam Rayburn," slides down the ways after christen-

SENATE

Armed Services Subcommittees Report To Unit

As in all Congressional committees which are busy enough to have subcommittees, the latter do most of the detail work and report their findings and decisions to the entire committee for unified action. The Senate Committee on Armed Services, along with its subcommittees and special committees, is extremely active. It acts as the link between constituents and the military forces—which number millions of military and civilian men and women—spending half the taxpayer's money.

Most prominent within the Armed Services Committee is Sen. Stennis' Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee, which comprises four Democrats: the chairman and Sens. Symington, Jackson and Thurmond; and three Republicans: Sens. Saltonstall, Mrs. Smith and Goldwater.

Money For Probing. Of the \$4.6 million voted by the Senate this month to finance a wide variety of investigations by 34 Senate committees and subcommittees in the year ahead, Sen. Stennis asked for \$190,000 to continue probes by his watchdog defense group. (The lion's share, as usual, went to the Senate Judiciary's 14 subcommittee investigative arms—almost \$2 million).

The Armed Services' Central Intelligence Subcommittee is headed by Sen. Russell, with Sens. Stennis, Byrd and Saltonstall as members. This group polices the operations of the National Security Act of 1947 and the Central Intelligence Act of 1949, and, primarily functions as a channel for liaison between the CIA and the Armed Services Committee.

Most of its hearings are secret and not recorded. Last year CIA chief John Mc-Cone secretly briefed the subcommittee three times in the spring, summer and fall. In the meantime the Subcommittee created a select committee on foreign information and intelligence to investigate McCone's own Central Intelligence Agency. This new unit is probably the most ultra-secret investigative group in the legislature.

Checks Stockpiling. Sen. Symington is chairman of the Subcommittee on National Stockpiling and Naval Petroleum Reserves. His colleagues are Sens.







Sen. Symington

Sen. Thurmond

Thurmond, Engle, Cannon, Young, Beall and Case. Their purpose is to maintain familiarity with the operation of the program for stockpiling of strategic and critical materials necessary for the common defense, and to consult with the Secretary of the Navy on such matters as the sale of crude oil, etc. The Subcommittee's extensive hearings last year in January and in the summer made daily frontpage headlines concerning scandals in stockpiling.

Another Subcommittee devotes itself to familiarity with the Status of Forces Treaty of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in which this nation is vitally interested because of the large numbers of American troops in NATO countries. Headed by Sen. Ervin, it includes Sens. Thurmond and Beall. It is primarily interested in the treaty to the extent that it relates to criminal jurisdiction not waived by host countries in which U. S. forces are stationed.

Limits Officers. Another Subcommittee on Officers Grade Limitations, chaired by Sen. Stennis, has as members Sen. Ervin and Mrs. Smith. The latter consistently opposed the Air Force promotions to reserve general of movie actor James Stewart. The group determines numerical limitations within which the Committee should recommend that the Senate consent to the nominations of flag and general officers. Last year it heard, at length, Army Secretary Cyrus R. Vance on general officers promotion policies.

The Subcommittee on Selective Service Extension is headed by Sen. Russell and comprises Sens. Ervin, Byrd, Inouye, Beall and Case.

Two other Subcommittees (Sens. Byrd, Symington and Goldwater on each) act as ex officio members of the Senate Appropriations Committee when the Department of Defense appropriations bills are under consideration and when military construction bills are being considered (as both are now for the fiscal 1965 budget).

Special Committees. Four Subcommittees (nonpermanent) were appointed during the first session of the 88th Congress last year:

- To consider Air Force Acquisition 35, to acquire by leasehold 55,000 acres in Dare County, N. C., for a Navy-Air Force Bombing Range; (Sens. Thurmond, chairman, and Inouye and Beall).
- To consider a proposed reprograming of Army Aircraft; (Sens. Jackson, chairman, Cannon and Case).
- To consider the increase of rates of basic pay for members of the uniformed services. The Military Pay Subcommittee is headed by Sen. Cannon and includes Sens. Ervin, Engle, Young, Saltonstall and Beall.
- To consider the construction of fallout shelters; (Sens. Jackson, chairman, and Thurmond, Byrd, Young, Beall and Goldwater.)

Adverse Reports On Bills Often Given

During the first session of the current 88th Congress, many Senate bills were given adverse reports by the Armed Services Sub-committees. A bill to establish survival depots for civilians in the event of an attack on the United States was butchered from February to October last year.

Such bills as one to give military commissary privileges to pensioned veterans and retired civil service employes and their wives and widows and another to revive the office of General of the Armies of the United States in order to give a sixth star to General of the Army Douglas MacArthur, were adversely reported from the Committee. Gen. John J. Pershing is the only American honored with six stars.

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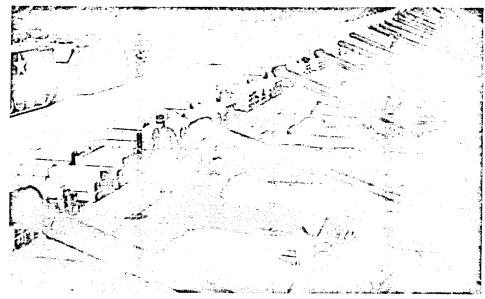
Committee Duties Many and Varied

Among the ten Senate Armed Services Committee standing orders are several which are unique among Congressional committees.

For example, each member of the committee must be furnished with a copy of the proposals of the Secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force and the Director of the Offices of Civil and Defense Mobilization regarding the proposed acquisition or disposal of property estimated at a price or rental of more than \$50,000. Those agencies may not enter into any such transaction until after the expiration of 30 days from the date on which a report of the facts concerning the proposed transaction is submitted to the Armed Services Committees.

Another is that no hearing of the Committee or Subcommittees shall be scheduled outside of the District of Columbia except by majority vote.

Standing order 7 directs that no confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented in an executive hearing of the Committee or Subcommittees or any report of the proceedings of such hearings shall be made public, either in whole or in part, by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of the members. Also, any witness summoned to a public or executive hearing may be



Armed Services Committee members within the Senate are interested in such arsenals of American might as this spread of power in Landstuhl, West Germany, where U. S. forces have their tanks and artillery always poised in readiness for any eventuality. At upper left is a long line of M-59 armored personnel carriers with tracks, center is ammunition and right are the big tanks and their guns of an amored division which can move out on a minute's notice.

accompanied by counsel of his own choosing, who shall be permitted while the witness is testifying to advise him.

Nominations Confirmed. Presidential nominations sent to the Armed Services Committee during the first session of the current (88th) Congress included many prominent Americans most of whom personally appeared before the Committee. but all were confirmed.

From the Air Force, Gen. Curtis E. Le-May's reappointment as its Chief of Staff for another year; Brockway McMillan of New Jersey as Under Secretary to replace the resigned Joseph Charyk; and Robert H. Charles of Missouri and Alex-ander H. Flax of New York as Assistant Secretaries.

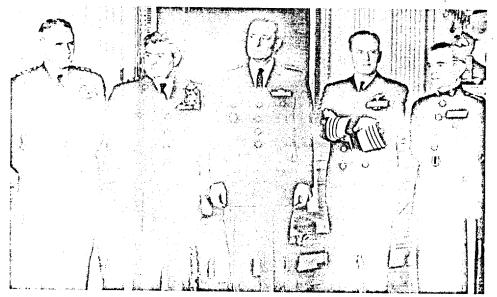
Top Army confirmations included Maj. Gen. Andrew J. Goodpaster's promotion to three star rank and his assignment as assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Willis M. Hawkins, Jr. of California and Edmund T. Pratt, Jr. of New York, as Assistant Secretaries (for Research and Development and for Financial Management, respectively).

Two highest-level Navy nominations approved by the Committee were those of Paul H. Nitze of Maryland to replace Fred Korth as Secretary of the Navy and Adm. David L. McDonald to be its Chief of Naval Operations.

The Marine Corps' new commandant, Wallace M. Greene, Jr., got his fourth star and a four year tour as chief.

In the Department of Defense, William P. Bunday of Maryland was approved as Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs and Eugene G. Fubini of New York also as an Assistant Secretary.

Complicated proceedings concerning oil and gas land areas involving royalties, fines and exchanges are constantly



Almost always at the beck and call of the Senate's Armed Services Committee are these top five U. S. military leaders, the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Left to right are chairman Gen. Maxwell Taylor, (USA); Gen. Curtis LeMay, (USAF); Gen. Earle Wheeler, (USA); Adm. David McDonald, (USN); and Gen. Wallace M. Greene, (USMC). All of these armed services chiefs are frequently called to the Senate committee for testimony.
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FEBRUARY 24, 1964

Armed Services Committee

SENATE

Top Secrecy Maintained At Committee Hearings

Armed Services Unit Lids All Information

A string of frontpage figures passes before the U. S. Senate's Armed Services C ommittee and its Subcommittees throughout every session of Congress and most of their answers to the probing questions of inquisitive Senators are either top secret, secret or classified information, rarely disclosed and almost never printed.

Protagonist in the armed services' top secret dramas within the committee room is the beleaguered Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara, whose department has asked for \$54 billion of the taxpayers' dollars to spend in fiscal year 1965.

Secretary McNamara was on the senatorial griddle most of last February and March during the interrogations on aircraft and missiles contracts. At the same time, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor was also an important witness. Then in October, both were facing the questioners on Vietnam and counterinsurgency. All of these hearings were TOP SECRET and never printed.

Hush-Hush Hearings. Most of the investigations, hearings and other matters not directly related to federal legislation before the Armed Services Committee of the Senate are secret.

Last year, during the aircraft and missiles contracts hearings, all of the armed services' departmental secretaries and chiefs of staff were interrogated, along with research and development military and civilian specialists, defense materiel corporate executives, technological experts, State Department officials (mostly on the nuclear test ban hearings), and Southeast Asia authorities.

One of the lengthiest hearings in senatorial records took place during July and August when the nuclear test ban treaty hearings came before the committee. The chain of eminent testifiers started with Secretary of State Dean Rusk, his deputy W. Averell Harriman, Secretary McNamara, Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, Atomic Energy Commission director; Gen. Taylor and Central Intelligence Agency chief John A. McCone.

As the test ban talks continued through the summer, such notables were called before the Committee as all four armed services chiefs of staff; Dr. Ed-



Constantly facing the interrogation of Senate Armed Services Committeemen is Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara, who has appeared before the group innumerable times during the 88th Congress and is scheduled for many more quizzes on the new \$54 billion military budget request.

ward Teller, Dr. Harold Brown and Professor Robert Strausz-Hupe, internationally famous scientists; Arthur H. Dean, disarmament expert and New York attorney; Atomic Energy laboratory directors from all over the nation and dozens of nuclear specialists of renown from universities and private corporations.

All testimony was secret. Most of it which was of a security nature was not printed. On Sept. 24, 1963, the Senate (by 80 yeas to 19 nays) adopted the resolution to ratify the international Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Solons Act On Joint Resolutions With House

Among the varied problems which annually face the members of the Senate Committee on Armed Services are Senate Joint and Concurrent Resolutions and House of Representative Bills and Joint Resolutions. In the latter was one to regulate the flag ceremontes at the Washington Monument in the Capital.

chiefs of staff; Dr. EdSenate Joint Resolutions this year inU. S. troops are in the 14 other NATO countries.

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cluded the education of Vietnamese at West Point, the establishment of a Congressional joint committee on national strategy, a medal for Air Force Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois (ret.). A Senate Concurrent Resolution to provide back pay and allowances for military personnel captured in wartime was adversely treated.

Goldwater Resolution. Sen Barry Goldwater (R-Ariz.) made a Senate floor resolution last year for the conduct of a study surrounding the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba, authorizing a \$100,000 expenditure from the Senate's contingent fund.

Scn. Stennis' Preparedness Investigating Subcommittee, which spends about \$200,000 per year in its probes, states that it exercises "a continuing watchfulness over matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services by a study of the policies, programs and activities, operations, facilities, requirements and practices of the Department of Defense, the armed services and other agencies exercising functions relating to defense."

It is intent on determining whether they are the most effective possible in the nation's interest and that the performance of their functions are characterized by maximum efficiency.



A big spender, always under scrutiny by the Armed Services Committee, is Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, U. S. commander in Europe and Supreme Allied chief of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces, in which most American overseas armed services are on duty.

18

The WASHINGTON WORLD